THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) The international community, including the United States, has made efforts in support of India's position that Pakistan must permanently stop cross-border terrorism against India, in accordance with President Musharraf's commitments of 12 Jaunary, 2002 and 27 May, 2002, in order to diffuse the current tension between India and Pakistan.

(c) and (d) The United States conveyed to the Government President Musharraf's pledge on an immediate and permanent end to cross-border infiltration as also his assurance on action against terrorist camps in Pakistan and Pakistan occupied Kashmir and expressed hope for de-escalatory steps from India. U. S. Secretary of State Colin Powell stated on 25 May, 2002 that cross-border activity was very destabilising and is a source of tension.

(e) Government took certain calibrated de-escalatory steps on the basis of its assessment of the situation on the ground. However, a permanent cessation of cross-border terrorism is required for diffusion of the current tension between India and Pakistan.

Mori International Survey

*74. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the findings of the survey conducted in Kashmir by the Mori International, one of the largest media organisation in the United Kingdom;

(b) if so, the findings of the survey; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following are the main findings of the MORI poll :

> —Overall, two thirds of people in Jammu and Kashmir take the view that Pakistan's involvement in the region for the last ten years has been bad. Only 15% believe it has been good for the region, while 18% say it has made no real difference.

—A clear majority of the population (over 65%) believes that the presence of foreign militants in Jammu and Kashmir is damaging to the Kashmiri cause.

—On the basis of citizenship, 61% said they felt they would be better off politically and economically as an Indian citizen, only 6% as a Pakistani citizen, and 33% said they did not know.

—The vast majority of Kashmiris oppose India and Pakistan going to war to find a permanent solution to the situation in Kashmir and believe the correct way to bring peace to the region is through democratic elections, ending violence, and economic development.

(c) The above findings taken by an internationally renowned independent marketing research firm vindicates Government's own assessment of the ground realities in Jammu and Kashmir.

Joint patrolling on line of control

*75. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister has made a statement at the recent Almaty Summit that the Government of India was in favour of joint patrolling by India and Pakistan on the line of control in Jammu and Kashmir to monitor the flow of cross border infiltration of terrorists;

(b) whether the Minister of Defence has stated that such joint patrolling is not feasible; and

(c) if so, Government's final stand in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) to (c) Pakistan has been saying that it will stop infiltration on a permanent basis and that there should be some form of international monitoring to verify whether infiltration is continuing or not.

The proposal for international monitors is neither practical nor possible.